

We regret to see that Colonel F. H. Elmer of Charleston has positively refused to let his name go before the South Carolina Legislature as a candidate for U. S. Senator. His election

be universally popular. Mr. R. B. Spheeris, of Hammond and Judge Butler are spoken of as the high office. The Columbia correspondent writes that the Charleston News writes, that the opinion seems to gather weight: that Judge Butler will be the man, though the friends of the other aspect will press their claims.

The Charleston papers notice, with expressions of deep sorrow, the death of the Hon. J. M. Deas, late President of the State Senate, and the language of the Mercury, a model of Southern gentleman. He filled many high offices of trust with faithfulness and ability.

The Canal Commissioners of Pennsylvania have agreed, that the volunteers composing the Pennsylvania Regiment will be permitted to leave the State works, on their way to the camp rendezvous, (Pittsburg), free of charge in pursuance of the act of the General Assembly, of June, 1859.

In some of the chapters of the Railroad

panies of this country, especial provision is made for the transportation of U. States troops free of charge. But, however this may be, we prefer that the various public companies in Virginia patriotically tender their works for the conveyance of troops to the rendezvous, and, up to the limits of the State, on their way to the seat of war. Such a course on their part, we would be eminently proper in itself, would detract from the popularity or ultimate benefit of the companies.

THE VAN NESS CASE.

[Correspondence of the Baltimore Clipper.]

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY, DEC. 1, 1863.

Mr. Thomas Kell, from Alexandria, was merely carried on business in this city, was examined on the part of the plaintiff. He testified that he furnished a stove for the house in the plaintiff resided, and did other work, for Gen. Van Ness said he would pay him in kind quarter. The lady refused to take the stove, it not being large enough; and Mr. Kell is one that suited her, she saying that the difference in price would be made right. This took place before last Christmas.

On cross-examination, Mr. Kell testified Gen. Van Ness, when he called on him that the chimney smoked, and that a stove be procured to remedy the evil.

Mr. Bradley adverted to the fact that he, as part of the defence, had laid a rule for the jury to select for the plaintiff to produce a paper, was designated. If the paper should not be

duced, they would have a right to secondary evidence, in which case the adverse party would have no right to give the original paper.

Mr. Brent said he did not wish to withhold the paper, but desired first to see what the result would be. (Mr. Reese, from Philadelphia), could prove to ask him some questions on the cross examination.

Subsequently, Mr. Brent handed the paper in an envelope to Mr. Bradley.

Mr. Reese, a clerk in the Philadelphia City Office, was called to the stand, and underwent a long examination and cross examination.

Mr. Hepburn called on him at the Post and asked him to show the two cent rate at which he bid. Mr. Hepburn then took from his pocket this envelope, and asked Mr. Reese whether the impression on the envelope was like the one on the envelope which he had shown him. Mr. Reese said it was not, and afterwards accompanied Mr. Hepburn to the residence of Money, who made the stamp, and that gentleman made experiments to test the genuineness of the impression of the stamp on the envelope, and he pronounced a forgery.

On the cross-examination, **Mr. Reese** was unable to convince Mr. Brent of a difference in the stamps, but Mr. Brent did not acknowledge that he was convinced.

Some little excitement was produced by Mr. Brent exhibiting to the witness a letter from what the witness had testified. The witness, at once, casting his eye at the post marks, testified that it was manufactured for the occasion! There was just received by a gentleman from Philadelphia, and not yet opened. The rate was not indicated in the stamp, nor was the day stamped.

Mr. Binney, from Philadelphia, testified he examined the figure 2 on the envelope given his opinion that it was counterfeit. It was curved at the tail, and the rim single, as, the stamp which he prepared for the post office had a 2 with a straight tail and a double rim. The court adjourned until to-morrow o'clock.

[Correspondence of the Baltimore American, Washington, Dec. 2, Even-

The Diplomatic circles have been engaged some days past in an earnest discussion of the effect of the arrest of the French Consul at Iquique. The nature of his offence has not been ascertained, but there are apprehensions that it may lead to difficulty between the two nations. It is a question likely at least to lead to a controversy.

In the Van Ness case the testimony has of more interest though not of sufficient importance to give interest to any long report. Post Office witnesses were left, after a brief examination of Mr. Reese of the Philadelphia Office. Mr. Richard Smith, Cashier of the Metropolitan Bank, was examined at length in reference to the hand-writing, habits and sickness of General Van Ness.

His confessions were, from his long and friendly intercourse with General Van Buren, that the letters were forgeries. Mr. S. had expressed originally that the letters were genuine as he was told so; but upon examination he pronounced them to be forgeries. Mr. S. was examined in reference to a will, and had no information of any, and he was present when the private papers of Gen. V. N. were brought to light, having previously been sealed up. A long confession was given of the illness of the General, and of his sudden death.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3, 1898. The Van Ness trial commenced the third yesterday, and can hardly be brought to a close before the expiration of another week. The has made but little headway to day—so hurried as to make one almost despair of seeing the testimony. George Sweeney, who has been for twenty-one years Chief Clerk of the Post Office, testified to the practices of the Office, at this time, with a view of giving

mony that the Green Valley letters could not pass through the offices, as they purported to bear their face. Mr. Sweeney also testified in regard to the letters, and gave his opinion, that those purporting to be from General Van Ness were forgeries. He had looked at all the letters, and, after a careful examination of them all, he was of opinion that there was not a genuine one in the whole number.

George W. Davis, a teller in the Metropolitan Bank for thirteen years, testified that all the Conner letters, all the Mrs. Van Ness letters, and all the Green Valley and Wallace letters, were

The last witness examined for the day was Henry D. Giipin, who testified that he had examined each of the forty-one Aldermen and assistants of Philadelphia, and that each of them testified that there had been no marriage by Gen. Van Ness to Mrs. Conner. The court for the prosecution resisted this testimony, and was decided to be in order.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—The Van Ness case has developed new money to-day in behalf of the defence. Several of the Directors of the Bank of the Metropolitan gentlemen who had known Gen. Van Ness for a long series of years, were examined, testifying length that the letters to Mrs. Van Ness, Mrs. Connor, alias Mrs. Wallace, were allgeries.

Piles of papers were examined by the witnesses—some genuine, and some, as charged the defence, counterfeit. The witnesses se-

ed the genuine from the forged with great certainty, and with almost invariable correctness.